



Intourist

SOVIET ARMENIA











THE ARMENIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC



The Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic is one of the 15 sovereign republics of the Soviet Union. It is situated in the northeast of the Armenian Upland, between the Caucasus and Asia Minor. In the north and east it is bordered by the fraternal Union republics, Georgia and Azerbaijan, and in the west and south, by Turkey and Iran.



The Armenian SSR occupies an area of 29,740 square kilometres and has a population of 3.2 million. The state language is Armenian, one of the Indo-European linguistic family.

Armenia is a mountainous country. 76.5 per cent of its territory lie at an altitude of 1,000—2,500 metres and more above sea-level. Mt. Aragats, the highest point in the Republic, reaches an altitude of 4,090 metres; altitude of the lowest point which is in the north of the Republic, is only 400 metres above sea-level.

The territory of Armenia can be described as a unique geological museum. Almost all the rocks composing the mantle of our planet can be found here. As a result of volcanic activity over many thousand years, more than 60 per cent of Armenia's territory are now covered by volcanic rocks—various kinds of lava and tuff. There are more than ten mountains higher than 3,000 metres. Mountainous rivers cutting their way through hard volcanic rocks form canyons, sometimes 400 or 500 metres deep, as have the rivers Vorotan and Debed.

Armenia is rich in various mineral resources. Volcanic activity also resulted in the formation of large masses of natural building materials such as tuff, basalt, andesite, perlite and many others which are widely used both in Armenia and beyond its borders.

In the Armenian SSR there are also large ore deposits, most of

which are now being successfully mined. Thus, in the metallogenic belt stretching between Alaverdi and Kafan there are rich copper ores containing copper, zinc, lead, and barites mixed with gold and silver. The Zangezur belt is rich in copper and molybdenum ores. Armenia also possesses magnesium and chromium ores of high quality, as well as gold, platinum, antimony, mercury and arsenic. There are numerous (more than 200) medicinal mineral springs differing in composition and temperature.

The climate of Soviet Armenia is dry and continental, with abundant and intensive solar radiation. In summer it is very hot in the valleys and at the same time snow and frost reign on the mountain summits.

Armenia is extremely abundant in solar energy. The solar radiation, both in duration—2,700 hours a year in the Ararat Valley and in the Lake Sevan basin—and in intensity, put Armenia in one of the first places in the Soviet Union.

The water resources of the Republic are rather limited, the annual amount equalling 7,600 million cubic metres of which 6,540 million cubic metres are a surface run-off. Thus, the annual per capita water discharge is about 2,500 cubic metres. The mountain rivers of Armenia are shallow, supplied mainly by melted snow. The waters stand high only during the spring floods. The largest river is the Araks, which flows along the border with Turkey.

In the season of heavy rains all the rivers acquire a ruinous strength and carry away millions of tons of soil. In Armenia there are fresh-water lakes and reservoirs with a total volume of 35.8 cubic kilometres. Lake Sevan, one of the world's highest alpine lakes, accounts for 97 per cent of this volume. It is situated at an altitude of more than 1,900 metres above sea-level and occupies an area of 1,288 square kilometres.

There is a great diversity of soil cover in Armenia: 15 types and more than 40 subtypes of soil.

The present-day soil cover was created by the people who cultivated the land in the course of centuries. Armenia is often called a land of stones, and in tilling every small plot of ground people removed thousands of tons of stones.

The vegetable kingdom of Armenia is represented by 3,200 species of various plants, in the main desert and mountain vegetation. Only 10 per cent of the territory of the Republic are occupied by forests and even these are very unequally distributed: 5 per cent are in the south and 30 per cent are in the north. The forests consist of oak, beech, hornbeam, lime, maple and ash trees. In some places there are also pine trees and various shrubs.

The animal world of the Republic is rather rich: there are more than 450 species of vertebrates, including 76 species of mammals, 304 species of birds, 44 species of reptiles, 6 species of amphibians and 24 species of fish. In some places reserves have been established for brown bears, moufflons, mountain goats, spotted deer, wild-boars, wolves and other animals. Leopards, panthers and hyenas are also found. Reptiles are represented by the gyurza, grass-snake and small boa, different kinds of lizards, etc. Many animals are under special protection and hunting them is prohibited. A number of these ani-

mals are registered in the "Red Book".

The Armenian Upland is one of the ancient centres of world civilization. People began to live here in the early Stone Age and continued to do so in the course of all human history.

Since time immemorial Armenia has been famous for its material and spiritual culture. Many ancient tribes and states which existed on the Armenian Upland, such as Nairi, Hayassa and especially Urartu, prepared the ground for the formation of Armenian statehood.

The Armenian "Armina" or the state of Armenia, as the ancient Greeks called it, figures in the well-known Bekhistunian inscription of the Persian King Darius I (520 B.C.).

Ancient Armenia was one of the largest states of the Near East and struggled against the expansionist policy of Persia, Rome and other countries. Metallurgy, pottery and jewellery-making, stone- and wood-carving, building and other crafts developed in the large cities of the kingdom.

Under the influence of antique Greece, Hellenistic Syria and Asia Minor the culture of Armenia rose to a high level, especially architecture, theatre art and literature.

In 301 Armenia adopted Christianity; it was the first country in the world to adopt Christianity as a state religion, a fact which undoubtedly played a great role in Armenia's further development.

In 405, the great Armenian thinker Mesrop Mashtots created the Armenian alphabet after many years of study and investigations. This alphabet, unchanged, is still in use today. Its appearance promoted the development of science and culture in Armenia. There emerged a whole constellation of medieval Armenian writers, historians, philosophers and naturalists whose works became





Welcome!





part of the golden fund of world science and culture.

Among these scholars special mention must be made of Movses Khorenatsi, an eminent 5th-century historian who was called the Herodotus of the Near East; the philosopher David the Invincible, who was so called for his invincibility in philosophical debates; Anania Shirakatsi, a 7th-century mathematician, astronomer and geographer; Ovanes Imastaser (11th—12th centuries) who founded a higher school

in Ani, the ancient capital of Armenia, and wrote a number of works on mathematics, astronomy, and other natural sciences; Grigor Magistros (10th—11th centuries), a scientist-encyclopedist who studied natural sciences, medicine, philosophy and philology; Mkhitar Geratsi, a scientist and physician of the 11th century; Grigor Narekatsi, a famous poet of the 10th century; Mkhitar Gosh, an outstanding representative of the juridical thought of the 12th—13th centuries.



Situated at the intersection of important trade routes and possessing rich natural resources and big centres of culture, Armenia was repeatedly the object of devastating raids by Roman, Persian, Arabic, Mongolian and Turkish invaders.

Many a time the Armenian people rose to defend their country, to rebuild the ruined towns and villages, and to confirm its existence in the constant and unequal struggle against invaders. Armenia lost its independence after the downfall of the

Armenian state of Kilikia in the 14th century. In the 16th—17th centuries Armenia was partitioned between Persia and Turkey. Under these conditions of social, national and religious oppression there began the darkest period in the history of the Armenian people.

As far back as in the Middle Ages, progressive figures of Armenia centred their hopes of rescue from oppression and complete destruction on the north in union with Russia. In 1828, after the Russo-Persian War,

Eastern Armenia was included in the Russian Empire under the Turkmenchay Treaty, while Western Armenia remained in the Ottoman Empire where the Armenian people were subjected to persecutions and oppression. In the Russo-Persian War the Armenian people, its volunteers took an active part in the military battles side by side with the Russian soldiers, whom they greeted as their liberators. This notable event was of utmost importance for the history of Armenia.

The Armenian people was saved from the threat of physical annihilation. However, under the conditions of cruel exploitation and the colonial policy of the tsarist government of Russia, Armenia remained a slowly developing appendage of the Russian Empire, valuable only as a source of raw materials. The Armenian people, as well as other peoples in tsarist Russia, lived under ever increasing poverty and oppression.

The emergence of the proletariat and the dissemination of Marxism brought new qualitative changes in the national liberation movement of the working people of Armenia. In 1896 there appeared the first Marxist circles.

During the years of World War I Armenia was once again turned into a bloody battlefield. The war, hunger, the horrors of the genocide of 1915 organized by the Turkish government in Western Armenia, crowds of refugees, all these factors brought Armenia to economic chaos and poverty.

The victory of the Great October Revolution of 1917 and the national policy of the Soviet state created real conditions for the Armenian people to realize its cherished dreams of social and national liberation.

Soviet power, established in Armenia on November 29, 1920, saved

the Armenian people from further destruction.

Soviet Russia, V. I. Lenin, the great leader of the Revolution and head of the Soviet government, rendered great help to Armenia in defending its important national interests. Thanks to the military, diplomatic and political assistance of Soviet Russia it became possible to liquidate the damage caused by Turkish invasions.

The Armenian people owes its spiritual and economic rebirth to Soviet power, to the socialist way of life and the national policy of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. With the establishment of Soviet power in Armenia a new era started in the history of the Armenian people. Soviet Russia rendered great assistance to Armenia in the reconstruction and development of its ruined economy.

In a relatively short period of time, only 64 years, the Armenian SSR has achieved considerable success in economic, social and cultural development.

Before the establishment of Soviet power the industry of Armenia consisted of small enterprises for processing copper ores and for the initial processing of agricultural products, and some primitive mechanical workshops. In 1920 industrial output was several times less than the figure for 1913 (the 1913 level was very low). Agriculture was also in a sorry state.

The power basis of the Republic—the cornerstone of the development of the national economy, was an object of concern from the first days of Soviet power. The '20s and '30s were the years when the Yerevan, Leninsk and Dzoraget Hydropower Stations were built as well as Kanaker Station, the first hydropower station of the Sevan-Razdan Cascade and, at that time, a powerful station. In

*Garni, a pagan temple
(1st century A.D., reconstructed in 1975)*





Khachkary



Miniature from an ancient manuscript

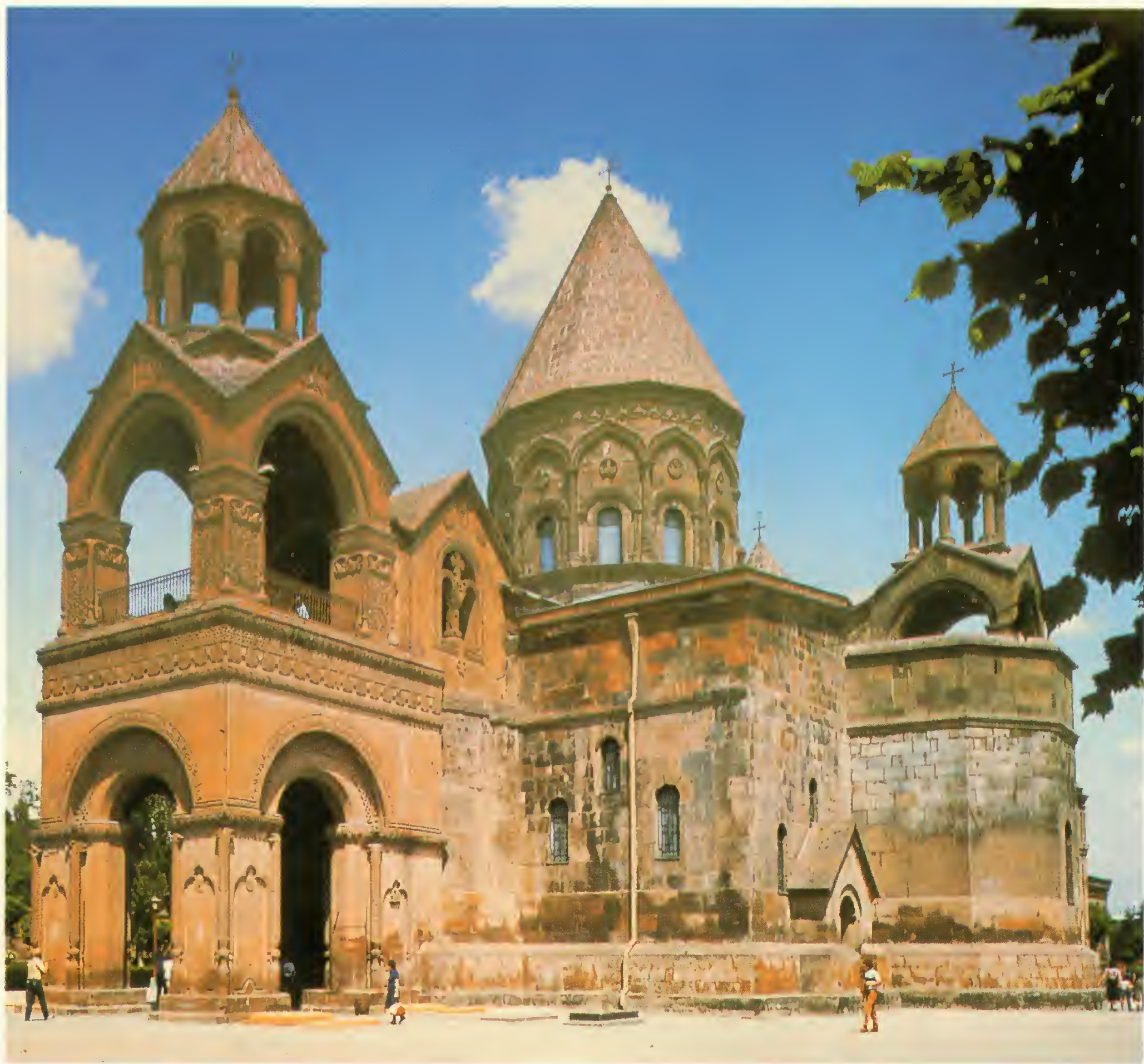


*Interior of the Gegard Church
(4th—13th centuries)*

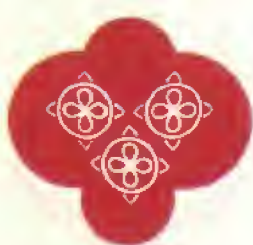
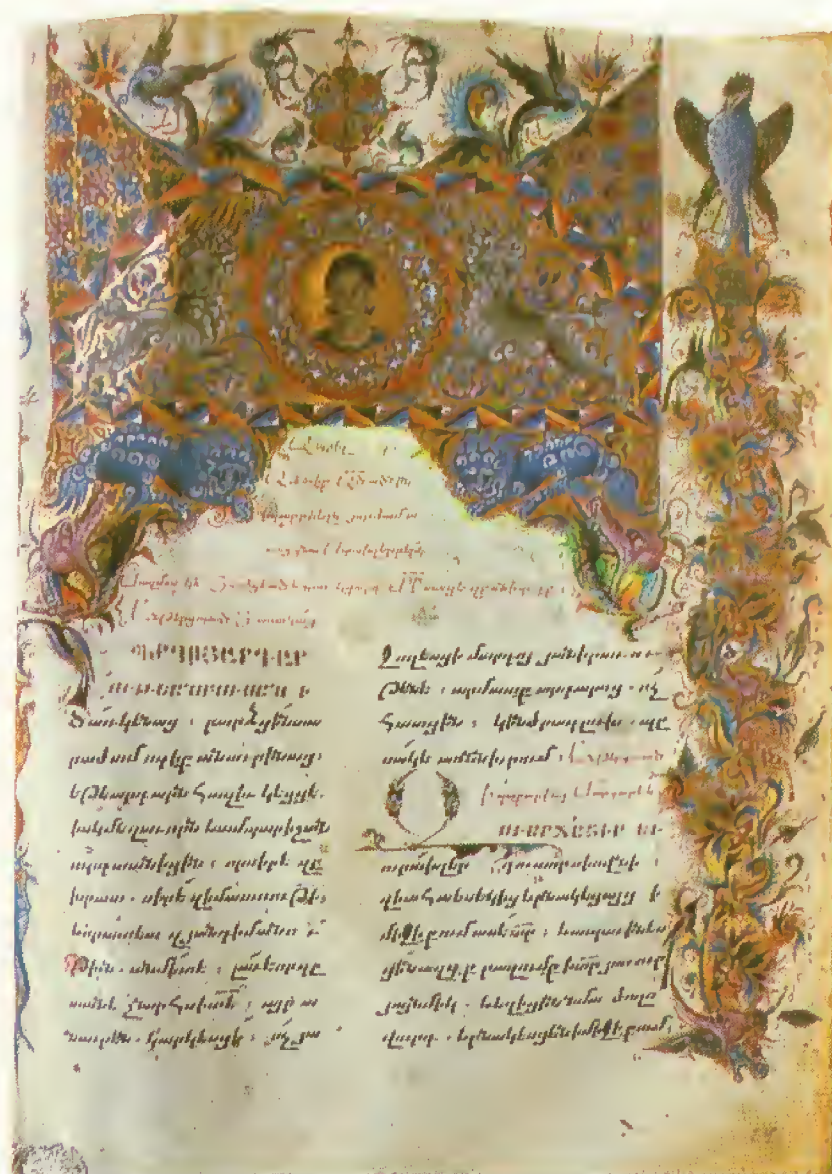


Silver frame for a manuscript





Echmiadzin. The 4th century cathedral



Miniature from an ancient manuscript

1940 the electric power output already exceeded the level of 1919 more than 230-fold.

The pre-war Five-year Plans were devoted to the creation of modern enterprises of the light and mining industries. In those years the working people of Armenia built and put into operation the Yerevan and Kirovakan Chemical Plants, organized the production of building materials, enlarged and reconstructed plants processing agricultural products, and founded the first plants producing metal-working machine-tools for the machine-building industry, as well as those manufacturing agricultural and other machinery. As a result, Armenia's gross industrial output in 1940 was 32 times greater than that of 1919.

In the years of World War II against nazi Germany, the Armenian people together with the other Soviet peoples made its worthy contribution to the victory over fascism. Hundreds of thousands of Armenia's sons rose to defend their Motherland and fought heroically at the war fronts.

In the post-war period a high rate of development and considerable structural changes became characteristic features of the Republic's industry.

Work on the development of a power basis continued and new large hydropower and thermal power stations were built. In 1979 the Armenian Nuclear Power Station with a capacity of 815,000 kilowatts was put into operation. Thus, in 1983 the Armenian SSR produced more than 13,000 million kilowatt/hours of electric energy, 40 times exceeding the pre-war level.

In 1980, as compared with 1940, the production of building materials increased almost 80-fold, the output of chemical products more than

125-fold, the light industry output 23-fold, and the food industry output 9-fold.

In the last two Five-year Plan periods the growth of the machine-building industry was especially rapid, due to changes in the structure of the Republic's industry and measures directed to the development of labour-consuming branches, requiring little material and power. Today it is the leading branch of Armenia's industry and the volume of its production exceeds that of 1940 more than 600-fold. The relative share of machine-building production is 28 per cent of the total industrial output. Such branches as radio-electronics, precise machine-tool building, instrument-making, electrical engineering, etc., which determine progress in science and engineering, are also developed in the Republic. A rapid rate of development is characteristic of the chemical, automobile, microbiological industries and gold-mining.

The last two Five-year Plans have shown a trend in the development of the Republic's industry to locate separate plants or branches of industrial enterprises in different district centres, towns and large villages, and to set up new industrial complexes. It has thus become possible to use all available labour resources in social production. As a result, new industrial centres, such as Charentsavan, Razdan, Abovyan, Dzhrvezh, Aparan, Kamo, Martuni and many others, have appeared on the map of the Republic.

Actively participating in the all-Union socialist division of labour, Armenia is an integral part of a single economic complex of the Soviet Union. It produces generators, electric motors, transformers, various types of cable and wire, welding equipment, electronic instruments and automatic devices,



Yerevan—capital of Soviet Armenia



computers, compressors, metal-working machine-tools, various instruments, automobiles and truck loaders, building materials, copper, molybdenum, products of the chemical industry, etc. Footwear, carpets, knitted goods and clothing produced in the Republic are in great demand throughout the country. Armenian brandies have been awarded more than 70 medals (mostly gold ones) at all-Union and international competitions. The Armenian SSR produces large quantities of wine, mineral water, tinned fruit and vegetables, cheeses and other products of the food industry.

Every year Armenian industry puts out hundreds of new products that are on a par with the best Soviet and world samples in technical and economic indices. Thanks to its high-quality products, the Republic is actively participating in Soviet export deliveries. Armenia now exports machines and equipment, radio-electronic apparatuses and computers, metal-working machine-tools, products of the light and food industries, etc., to dozens of countries, including developed capitalist countries.

Today the Armenian SSR is primarily an industrial country. The share of industry in the entire production of the Republic is more than 65 per cent.

Present-day agriculture in Soviet Armenia is based on mechanization and electrification. In 1980 the agricultural output exceeded that of 1913 almost 8-fold.

In the years of Soviet power the Armenian village has been completely transformed thanks to the Leninist agrarian policy consistently followed by the CPSU. Living conditions of rural population have been considerably improved. In the '50s Armenian villages were completely electrified; they now have comfort-

able dwellings, schools, hospitals and clubs. Rural areas are being telephonized, two-four programmes are telecast all over Armenia, many new modern roads have been built.

Agriculture in the Republic is specialized according to zones. Viticulture and fruit-growing, the cultivating of technical crops such as geranium and tobacco are being developed, as well as livestock breeding in mountain and pre-mountain zones. Insufficiency of land resources has made it necessary to enlarge irrigated areas in order to increase crop yields and livestock productivity. A large irrigation network has been set up, including reservoirs, pumping stations and canals. In 1980 the total area of irrigated land was equal to 270,000 hectares, or 20 per cent of all the arable land in the Republic. With the aim of further increasing irrigated areas it is planned to build 16 new reservoirs and irrigate another 80,000 hectares before 1990.

Work is proceeding on the designing and construction of large greenhouse complexes which will make it possible to utilize climatic factors and available energy resources for providing the population with vegetables the year round.

Another important trend in the development of the Republic's agriculture is the establishment of industrial complexes producing eggs, poultry, pork, beef and milk.

In 1975—1980 alone, more than 70 industrial enterprises and large shops were put into operation. Among them are the Armenian Nuclear Power Station, the Shamb Hydropower Station, and the Ararat Gold-mining Factory. Hundreds of thousands of square metres of housing space, dozens of modern schools, hospitals, polyclinics, palaces of culture and clubs, different agricultural complexes and irrigation projects



At a knitted goods factory

are annually commissioned, as well as hundreds of kilometres of motor roads and communications, services, stores and shops, etc.

The capital of Soviet Armenia, Yerevan, is more than 2,765 years old. In the years of Soviet power it has grown from a small provincial town which in 1920 had a population of less than 30,000 into a cultural, scientific and industrial centre with a population now exceeding 1.1 million. Wide avenues, multi-storeyed

houses, magnificent architectural ensembles, boulevards and parks, theatres and sports facilities, museums and picture galleries, all these place Yerevan on a par with the most attractive cities of the world.

Other towns in the Republic, such as Leninakan with a population of more than 220,000, Kirovakan with a population of 150,000, have each acquired a new and original aspect after reconstruction, and the new



▲
Armenian Nuclear
Power Station



◀ Kanaker Aluminium
Smelter

Kechut Reservoir ▶



towns of Razdan, Abovyan, Charentsavan and others have gone up.

In the years of Soviet power, public education, science, culture and public health have made great advances in Armenia.

More than 600,000 schoolchildren study at 1,520 general education schools. The Republic also has a wide network of vocational and technical schools which offer professional training and a complete secondary education, and more than 63 specialized secondary schools.

There are also 18 institutions of higher education in the Republic, training highly qualified personnel for all branches of the national economy. Among the large scientific and educational centres are Yerevan State University, the Yerevan Polytechnical Institute, medical, agricultural and other institutes.

Before the Great October Revolution of 1917 very few Armenians had an opportunity to obtain higher education and those who did studied in Russia or in European countries. Today many young people, including Armenians, from other countries come to study in Soviet Armenia.

More than 18,000 scientific workers engage in creative work at the research institutions of the Republic, including 5,000 Candidates of Science and more than 700 Doctors of Science.

The development of science in Soviet Armenia, the achievements of its scientists who have made a great contribution to Soviet and world science have been made possible by the Leninist national policy of the CPSU.

The Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR, founded in the severe years of the Great Patriotic War of 1941—1945, has become the centre of scientific thought in the Republic. It comprises more than 30

scientific and research institutes which elaborate actual problems in different branches of science. For almost 35 years the Academy of Sciences has been headed by the eminent scientist Academician V. A. Ambartsumyan, twice Hero of Socialist Labour and a member of many foreign academies and scientific societies.

Armenian scientists have achieved considerable theoretical and practical results in astrophysics, physics of elementary particles, quantum electronics, theory of functions, theory of elasticity and plasticity, chemistry of polymers and biologically active compounds, geology and seismology, and in many other branches of science. The names of outstanding scientists and founders of new scientific trends in Armenia are well known all over the world. They include the brothers A. Alikhanov and A. Alikhanyan, both physicists; Academician I. Orbeli, archeologist, orientalist, the first President of the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR; his brother Academician L. Orbeli, a physiologist; Academicians N. Sissakyan and A. Takh-tadzhyan, biologists; E. Asratyan and Kh. Koshtoyants, physiologists; A. Shaginyan, M. Dzhrbashyan and S. Mergelyan, mathematicians; S. Gambaryan and A. Mndzhoyan, chemists; A. Manandyan, G. Acharyan and M. Abegyan, historians and linguists, and many others.

The world-famous Byurakan Observatory has become the centre of astrophysics. A ring electron accelerator, one of the largest in the world, is in operation in Yerevan. Computers of the "Nairi" system elaborated by Armenian scientists have become very popular and have won a USSR State Prize. New medicines elaborated by the scientists of the Institute of Fine Organic Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR are

widely known. Special crystals grown according to methods elaborated at the Institute of Physical Investigations of the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR and the Institute of Condensed Media Physics of Yerevan State University, are highly esteemed and have found wide application. Of considerable significance are researches in laser radiation.

One of the interesting places worth seeing in Yerevan is Matenadaran, a unique depository and research institute of ancient manuscripts named after Mesrop Mashtots. More than 14,000 manuscripts dealing with history, philosophy, jurisprudence, medicine, mathematics and geography, written in Armenian, Greek, Arabic and other languages, are preserved here. Important research is being carried out.

A large network of medical institutions has been established in the Republic. It includes hospitals, polyclinics, dispensaries, consultation centres, sanitary and epidemiological institutions. There are more than 33 physicians per every 10,000 inhabitants. A number of medical research institutions and chairs of institutions of higher education carry out important research on health protection. There are famous health resorts—Dzhermouk, Arzni and Ankavan—operating on the basis of local mineral springs.

Cultural and educational institutions, such as palaces of culture, clubs and cinemas, are widespread in all towns, regional centres, villages and other settlements. There are more than 1,200 public libraries with a total stock of more than 40 million books in the Republic.

The Armenian theatre with its history of more than two thousand years is flourishing. There are 14 professional, 25 semi-professional

theatres and numerous amateur theatrical companies in the Republic.

Many Armenian composers and musicians have won recognition not only in the Soviet Union, but also abroad. Compositions by Aram Khachaturyan, Arno Babadzhanyan, Edgar Oganesyanyan, Edvard Mirzoyan, Alexander Arutyunyan and others are very popular in many countries. The State Choir of Armenia, conducted by People's Artist of the USSR O. Chekidzhyan, the State Dance Company directed by V. Khanamiryan, the Variety Orchestra of Armenia directed by People's Artist of the USSR K. Orbelyan, the State Ensemble of Folk Song and Dance, the Ensemble of Violinists, and other groups have successfully toured the countries of Europe, Asia, America and Australia, adding to the fame of Soviet art.

Soviet Armenia is the motherland of a whole constellation of original and striking painters and sculptors, masters of art whose names are well known beyond the borders of Armenia. Chief among them are the outstanding Armenian painter Martiros Saryan, the well-known painters Minas Avetisyan, Grigor Khandzhyan, Sarkis Muradyan, and many others.

Due to its great achievements in economy and culture, reborn Armenia has become a centre of attraction for all Armenians who were once driven from their Motherland and who now live in many different countries of the world. More than 200,000 Armenians have returned to their Motherland from foreign countries.

It is natural that the rapid growth of industry and agriculture, intensive development of transport, urbanization have posed a number of problems in Armenia, as they have everywhere, concerning environ-



▲
*Dzhermouk Sanatorium.
Mineral water gallery*

*Young Pioneer Camp
in the town of Kirovakan* ►





mental protection. In Armenia these problems are becoming more and more complicated in view of such specific conditions as insufficient land and water resources, terrain, climate, etc., and demand immediate solution.

That is why the problems of environmental protection are in the centre of serious attention in Soviet Armenia. Measures are being taken to reduce and eliminate the toxic by-products of industrial enterprises and transport, to improve the ration-

al utilization of water resources, to construct large purifying objects in towns and enterprises, to develop melioration, etc.

Special attention is being devoted to the problem of Lake Sevan.

Sevan is a unique lake. By diverting part of its water resources for the needs of irrigation and the production of electric power, it has played a decisive role in the development of the national economy of Armenia. Now, according to a decision of the CPSU Central Committee and the

*Weightlifter Yurik Vardanyan,
winner of several world
championships*



USSR Council of Ministers, measures are being taken to stop the further reduction of the water level in the lake and to raise it by several metres. With this aim the Mkhchyan and Arevshat Pumping Stations with an annual capacity of 175 million cubic metres and the Aparan Reservoir with a volume of 80 million cubic metres have been built, which have in part compensated the loss of water in Lake Sevan.

A grandiose construction to transfer the waters of the River Arpa into

Lake Sevan was designed. A unique tunnel 49 kilometres long was cut through the mountain ridge. In March 1981 the tunnel was ceremonially commissioned and the waters of the River Arpa flowed into the Lake, enriching it with 250 million cubic metres of pure spring water annually.

To increase the water level of the Lake it is planned to build a complex of hydrotechnical constructions which will make it possible to transfer part of the waters of the River

Youth Palace in Yerevan





Yerevan. Razdan
Stadium



Yerevan.
Khachaturyan
Grand Concert Hall

Vorotan (200 million cubic metres) to Lake Sevan through the Arpa-Sevan tunnel.

Moreover, after the construction of the Ger-Ger Reservoir it will become possible to obtain additional 200 million cubic metres of water from the River Arpa.

The construction of several reservoirs (Oktemberyan, Razdan and others) as well as that of the Ranch-par Pumping Station and the recon-

struction of the Sevan-Razdan irrigation system with an area of 60,000 hectares will also reduce the amount of Sevan's water used for power needs and irrigation.

Thus, in 1995 it will become possible to increase the volume of the Lake by 6,000—7,000 million cubic metres and to raise its level by 5 metres.

The establishment of the "Sevan" National Park created in 1978,



Yerevan. Zvartnots Airport



which includes the Lake and the adjoining territory, proved an important step in the solution of the Sevan problem. The aim of the Park is to preserve and increase the natural resources of the Sevan basin and also to elaborate and implement measures providing good conditions for tourism and recreation. Soviet Armenia possesses another wonder which is as attractive as its natural scene. These are its architectural monuments which have won Armenia the epithet of an open-air museum. On the territory of present-day Armenia there are some 14,000 state-protected monuments. They include ancient altars and tombs dating 15,000 to 10,000 years back, a metal-making complex of ancient Metsamor (16th century B.C.), ancient Yerevan—Erebuni (8th century B.C.), the pagan temple of Garni (1st century) reconstructed from ruins, well-preserved early and medieval churches, monasteries, educational centres and secular structures. Among other monuments are the Echmiadzin Cathedral (4th century), the Church of Ripsime (7th century), the Church of Gegard hewn in the rocks (4th—13th centuries), the ruins of the three-tiered Church of Zvartnots (7th century), the monasteries of Nor-Getik (12th—13th

centuries) and Agartsin (11th—12th centuries), the Tatev University and Monastery (9th century), the Sanain churches and the academy (10th century), and others.

These structures amaze visitors by their perfection, severe forms, bold conception and grandeur. The Soviet government pays much attention to the preservation and restoration of historical monuments, allocating considerable sums for this purpose. The reconstruction of architectural monuments is being carried out on a large scale with the roads leading to the monuments built and numerous tourists routes opened.

Among the monuments restored and refurbished in the last few years are the Garni temple, the Amberd temple and fortress, the Nor-Getik and Agartsin churches, and numerous temples, caravanserais and other structures. This work is carried out with the active cooperation of institutions of the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR, Yerevan State University, collective members of the Society for the Protection of Historical Monuments, other establishments, organizations and institutes, as well as hundreds of thousands of Armenian people.



Present-day Armenia is an example of the implementation of the CPSU's Leninist national policy. It is convincing evidence of how within a short period a backward province of tsarist Russia has made spectacular progress in advancing its economy, culture, science and the people's well-being, and has turned into a highly developed socialist country. It has achieved this in conditions of the new social system born of the Great October Socialist Revolution and under the guidance of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.



*Yerevan.
Lenin Square at night*



